

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicant amends the specification as follows:

[20] With reference to Fig. 2, restraining brace 10 is generally comprised of a fork-shaped or u-shaped portion 20 and a locking portion 22. Forked shaped portion 20 is defined by two parallel, spaced apart legs 24 and a cross-member 25. Each leg 24 is comprised of a first tube 26 axially nested inside a second tube 28 such that tubes 26, 28 are capable of telescoping movement relative to one another. Tube 26 includes adjustment elements (not shown) which may be apertures, teeth, or threads. In another embodiment, the adjustment elements are apertures in which a spring loaded pin can seat. In yet another embodiment, the adjustment elements are teeth that can be engaged by a ratchet mechanism. Each leg 24 is further defined by a distal end 30 and a proximal end 32. Attached to the distal end 30 of leg 24 is a mounting foot 34. Mounting foot 34 may include a rigid plate 36 on which is mounted an outwardly facing friction pad 38. Friction pad 38 may be rubber or a similar material to enhance friction between walls 12 and brace 10. Extending from the proximal end 32 of each leg 24 is a shaft 40. Shaft 40 is mounted on leg 24 so as to extend perpendicular therefrom. In the illustrated embodiment, shaft 40 includes a plurality of adjustment apertures 42. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that in an alternative embodiment, shaft 40 may include a plurality of teeth or similar device to permit finer adjustments of leg 24, as described in more detail below, than would be permitted by the coarser adjustment apertures 42. In any event, one or more attachment anchors 44 may be positioned along the length of leg 24.